

**To:** Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Merritt, Steven[Merritt.Steven@epa.gov]; Spence, Sandra[Spence.Sandra@epa.gov]  
**From:** Garcia, Bert  
**Sent:** Wed 10/28/2015 9:36:50 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Status of sampling

Steve, a huge thank you to you and the whole crew. You guys have been super responsive and flexible.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 28, 2015, at 12:07 PM, Ostrander, David <[Ostrander.David@epa.gov](mailto:Ostrander.David@epa.gov)> wrote:

Just want to extend apologies for the confusion and changing directions. Thanks for being flexible and trying to do what is best.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 28, 2015, at 12:58 PM, Merritt, Steven <[Merritt.Steven@epa.gov](mailto:Merritt.Steven@epa.gov)> wrote:

Yessir. Three coolers full and popping smoke. I'm going to send START home tomorrow after they get all the data management done and I'll head up to GKM to spell Way for a few days. Be back in Denver on Tuesday.

Steven B. Merritt, CIH

Industrial Hygienist / Federal On-Scene Coordinator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8

1595 Wynkoop ST (8EPR-ER)

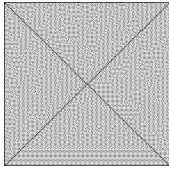
Denver, CO 80202-1129

303-312-6146 - Work

303-775-7226 - Mobile

303-312-7203 - Fax

[Merritt.Steven@epa.gov](mailto:Merritt.Steven@epa.gov)



Sent from my iPhone...

On Oct 28, 2015, at 11:38 AM, Ostrander, David <[Ostrander.David@epa.gov](mailto:Ostrander.David@epa.gov)> wrote:

Yes. Demob when done with other sites

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 28, 2015, at 12:29 PM, Merritt, Steven <[Merritt.Steven@epa.gov](mailto:Merritt.Steven@epa.gov)> wrote:

So do we demobilize START as soon as we are done with the Colorado sites with the expectation that we'll do this again after the politicians hash things out in NM? Seems a real waste to pay for all the move/demob time when we're already here and geared up for NN and NM. Maybe we should reconstitute Area Command to deconflict START for the second round of sampling that may need to be done whenever...

Best laid plans break down at first contact with politics!

Steven B. Merritt, CIH

Industrial Hygienist / Federal On-Scene Coordinator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8

1595 Wynkoop ST (8EPR-ER)

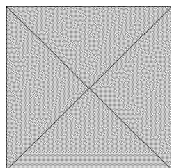
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[Merritt.Steven@epa.gov](mailto:Merritt.Steven@epa.gov)



Sent from my iPhone...

On Oct 28, 2015, at 11:05 AM, Spence, Sandra <[Spence.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:Spence.Sandra@epa.gov)> wrote:

I have confirmed via text for Steve not to sample NM and let him know not to sample until he hears from Ostrander. He received and responded to my text. I've also e-mailed him a bunch.

**From:** Garcia, Bert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2015 10:46 AM  
**To:** Spence, Sandra  
**Subject:** Re: Status of sampling

Sandie, thanks. I want to give the R 6 WDD feedback about needing better coordination. Any concerns? I don't want to get anyone in trouble. Maybe a conversation when I see him next week, or do we need urgent attention on this?

Has Steve confirmed not to do NM?

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 28, 2015, at 10:34 AM, Spence, Sandra <[Spence.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:Spence.Sandra@epa.gov)> wrote:

FYI...

**From:** Tulis, Dana  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2015 9:05 AM

**To:** Spence, Sandra  
**Cc:** Cook, Robert; Merritt, Steven; Ostrander, David; John, Forrest; Rauscher, Jon; Restivo, Angela; Edlund, Carl  
**Subject:** Re: Status of sampling

Folks, I just talked to Carl Edlund and we will not be sampling in New Mexico until after the meeting with Sec Flynn next week.

Dana S. Tulis

Deputy Office Director

Office of Emergency Management

US EPA

202-564-7938

On Oct 28, 2015, at 9:50 AM, "Spence, Sandra"  
<[Spence.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:Spence.Sandra@epa.gov)> wrote:

Ok, thank you all. We will go ahead with NM sampling now.

Rob, I really appreciate you and the other R6 folks' efforts to get the go ahead for these sites as further delay poses an increasing risk of compromising the quality of bio data that we can collect. Thanks for the confirmation.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 28, 2015, at 7:40 AM, Cook, Robert  
<[Cook.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Cook.Robert@epa.gov)> wrote:

Sandie,

Your understanding is correct. Thank you for coordinating the addition of the sites.

Regards,

Rob

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***Robert Cook***

Environmental Scientist

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 6

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[<image003.jpg>](#) [<image004.jpg>](#)

**From:** Spence, Sandra

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2015 8:30 PM

**To:** Tulis, Dana; Cook, Robert

**Cc:** Merritt, Steven; Ostrander, David

**Subject:** Re: Status of sampling

Hi Dana and Rob, based on R6's discussion with NM and request to add additional sampling sites in NM to our Fall event, we have added 3 sites for NM and are proceeding with sampling. Crews are expected to be in NM tomorrow. If this understanding is in error, please advise immediately. It was my understanding that NM requested these sites and is ok with sampling.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 27, 2015, at 6:07 PM, Tulis, Dana

[<Tulis.Dana@epa.gov>](mailto:Tulis.Dana@epa.gov) wrote:

Ha! Sorry, is there a way you could email me the

matrix, I will not have access to that tomorrow,  
thanks so much!

Dana S. Tulis

Deputy Office Director

Office of Emergency Management

US EPA

202-564-7938

On Oct 27, 2015, at 7:58 PM, "Spence, Sandra"  
<[Spence.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:Spence.Sandra@epa.gov)> wrote:

I'm guessing Dana that you meant to email me  
instead of Sandy Stavnes? Happens a lot.  
Anyway, the complete matrix of comments is  
on the One-Drive for the monitoring plan.  
That was shared with you so you should still  
have access. Let me know if you are having  
trouble locating it.

Yes, sampling began this week. We await the  
ok from Navajo for a few sites but otherwise  
are on track. We are working with R9 to get  
the final go ahead for those.

Thx.

Sandie

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 27, 2015, at 4:41 PM, Stavnes, Sandra  
<[Stavnes.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:Stavnes.Sandra@epa.gov)> wrote:

Dana

Fall sampling started yesterday. Steve Merritt (R8 OSC) is leading 2 sampling crews on started at the upper watershed and one at the other end (lake powell I believe). We are not sure which Qs and As you are looking for. We are not sure what you mean by the matrix of questions. Are you referring to water quality sampling plan, the entire universe of questions from the press, 9/4 Mathy meetings or latest round of press questions? I have cc'd several folks on this email who likely will have the information you are looking for so please get back to us with clarification and we'll respond tomorrow.

Thanks.

Sandy

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Sandra A. Stavnes

Deputy Assistant Regional Administrator

Office of Ecosystems Protection and  
Remediation (8EPR)

USEPA Region 8

1595 Wynkoop Street

Denver, CO 80202

email: [stavnes.sandra@epa.gov](mailto:stavnes.sandra@epa.gov)

phone: 303-312-6117

**From:** Tulis, Dana

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2015 1:14  
PM

**To:** Stavnes, Sandra; Ostrander, David

**Cc:** Wall, Tom  
**Subject:** Status of sampling

Folks, I assume Fall sampling is underway in Colorado, please confirm. Sandi, OSWER IO asked for a list of all the questions we received, can you get me the latest matrix on that and our responses, I know that is still in play, but whatever you can get me is great. This is for the NM meeting with Sec Flynn. Thank you.

Dana S. Tulis

Deputy Office Director,

Office of Emergency Management, EPA

W-202-564-7938

C-202-253-8309